

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields. It contains other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Course in danger is half the battlefield. Green pledges fight on wage cuts; jobs; 5-day week urged.

WHOLE NO. 1058.

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1931

FRANK MORRISON, Secretary

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UNIONISM AS A SOCIAL FORCE

The value of the trade union movement can not be measured by wage increases, unless these increases are associated with higher living standards, more diffused education and a more enlightened citizenship.

Unionism is a social force because its heart is morally and ethically sound. It is never found pleading for special privileges. Wage rates it asks for are met by the non-union employer. Its pleas for the abolishment of child labor include children of workers who take no part in the fight for better conditions. Its demands that life and limb be protected in shop and mine include all workers. Its creed is all-embracing—regardless of sex, religious belief, politics, nationality or color—it invites all wage earners to join with it in the effort for a higher type of manhood and womanhood.

The time has passed when the trade union movement must apologize for its existence or defend its purposes. Its position is invulnerable because it is supported by a grim necessity and by the highest ideals that have actuated man—a larger degree of liberty. A movement founded on these two elements can withstand any shock, as has been proven times without number by the trade unions.

DEMOCRACY IN INDUSTRY

Two codes of rules and regulations affect the workers; the law upon the statute books, and the rules within industry.

The first determines their relationship as citizens to all other citizens and to property.

The second largely determines the relationship of employer and employee, the terms of employment, the conditions of labor, and the rules and regulations affecting the workers as employees.

The first is secured through the application of the methods of democracy in the enactment of legislation, and is based upon the principle that the laws which govern a free people should exist only with their consent.

The second, except where effective trade unionism exists, is established by the arbitrary or autocratic rule of the employer and the employer and the principle that industry and commerce can not be successfully conducted unless the employer exercises the unquestioned right to establish such rules, regulations and provisions affecting the employees as self-interest prompts.

Both forms of law vitally affect the workers' opportunities in life and determine their standard of living. The rules, regulations and conditions within industry in many instances affect them more than legislative enactments. The laws which govern the laws within industry and commerce which affect them, equivalent to the voice which they have as citizens in determining the legislative enactments which shall govern them.

It is as inconceivable that the workers as free citizens should remain under autocratically made law within industry and commerce as it is that the nation could remain a democracy while certain individuals or groups exercise autocratic powers.

It is, therefore, essential that the workers everywhere should insist upon their right to organize into trade unions, and that effective legislation should be enacted which would make it a criminal offense for any employer to interfere with or hamper the exercise of this right or to interfere with the legitimate activities of trade unions.

—Excerpt from A. F. of L. Reconstruction Program.

OIL WELL OPERATORS DROP 30,000 WORKERS

Wichita, Kan., July 18.—The agreement of over 300 independent oil well operators that they will raise prices by reducing the number of workers into the army of unemployed. It is expected that the oil companies will cut the number of workers by 30,000, throwing an additional 30,000 out of work and reducing their standards of living.

PAPER MILL WORKERS THROWN OUT OF JOBS

Port William, Ont., July 18.—The closing down of the pulp and paper mill at Port William, Ont., has thrown out of work 1,000 paper mill workers out of jobs. Many of the workers are being sent to the unemployment office for relief. The mill was closed by the government. In an endeavor to save the mill, the government has ordered the mill to be closed. The mill was closed by the government. In an endeavor to save the mill, the government has ordered the mill to be closed.

OIL COMPANIES SACK YUGOSLAVIAN WORKERS

Belgrade, Yugoslavia, July 18.—The Standard Oil Company, the American Petroleum Company and the Royal Dutch Shell Company have thrown large numbers of workers into the army of the unemployed by shutting down their big oil refineries in Yugoslavia. The executives of the oil companies closed their plants because the government of Yugoslavia cancelled a law enacted some years ago providing for the government to enter duty free.

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN VISION UNEMPLOYMENT

Vienna, Austria, July 18.—Forty-three American business women, headed by Mrs. William C. Sullivan, a prominent lawyer, are here to attend the second annual conference of the International Congress of Business and Professional Women. Unemployment is one of the principal questions to be considered by the conference. The women are here to discuss the problem of unemployment and to find ways to help the unemployed.

Machinery Should Reduce Hours Instead of Creating Unemployment

New York, July 18.—No one protests the development of machines, but everyone protests the industrial development of employment opportunities, and this will become more and more a world problem, according to a statement on labor-displacing machinery by Joseph N. Wiler, president of the American Federation of Machinery.

In considering this matter, one can not merely argue from the standpoint of the particular calling, profession or occupation in life, but must take into consideration the reason that no man remains unemployed by unfavorable economic developments engulfing the entire world. The fact is that the cause of unemployment is not the machine, but the fact that the machine is not used to its full capacity. The machine is not used to its full capacity because the machine is not used to its full capacity. The machine is not used to its full capacity because the machine is not used to its full capacity.

Trust Law Change and Unionized Coal Industry Demanded by Green

Washington, July 18.—Recognition of trade union collective bargaining in the coal industry and the repeal of the anti-trust laws to permit legalizing the holding company of the coal industry by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, as necessary fundamental reforms for the bituminous coal industry on a sound economic basis.

In a press statement explaining his plan to secure the abolition of the holding companies would bring about the closing down of the coal mines where the coal is produced. This would mean the preservation of the coal supply, provide work for the operators and the miners, and wages for the coal miners. The holding companies would be abolished.

Hoover Hopes to Cure Coal Ills; Conditions Desperate, Lewis Says

Washington, July 18.—The question of a national conference to consider economic problems in the bituminous coal industry, which John D. Hoover, president of the United Mine Workers of America, requested President Hoover to convene, was denied at the conclusion of a two-day conference between officials of the Mine Workers' Union, Secretary of Labor Frank Morrison, and Secretary of Commerce La Follette.

President Hoover still hopes to find some means of bettering conditions in the coal industry.

"We have heard both the miners and the operators," Secretary Hoover said, "but we have not reached a conclusion. There will be further conferences. The final report is made to President Hoover, but I do not know at this time what they will be with." Secretary Hoover complimented the miners for the work they have done in the past.

"We think conditions in the bituminous coal industry are desperate from a human standpoint and from a national standpoint," Secretary Hoover said. "We think conditions in the bituminous coal industry are desperate from a human standpoint and from a national standpoint."

Judge Stops Trial of 88 Workers Charged with Violating Injunction

Rapid City, S. D., July 18.—Judge Harold Hanley's indefinite postponement of the trial of 88 workers charged with violating an injunction against the United Mine Workers of America, was announced today. The workers are charged with violating an injunction against the United Mine Workers of America, which was issued by the federal court in Rapid City, S. D.

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Labor-Displacing Machines Cause Jobless; Shorter Hours the Remedy

Kansas City, Mo., July 18.—The unemployment question among those who are greatly suffering due to total unemployment or part employment, is the question of the machine. The machine is displacing workers and creating unemployment. The machine is displacing workers and creating unemployment.

Mooney Sent to Jail Unjustly; "Shocking State of Justice"

Washington, July 18.—The fact that California courts could not grant Tom Mooney and Warren Billings new trials even though they had been convicted by a jury, was discovered after the fact. The fact that California courts could not grant Tom Mooney and Warren Billings new trials even though they had been convicted by a jury, was discovered after the fact.

COMMUNISM IN SPAIN

First Ambassador of the Republic of Spain to the United States, Raulo, addressed the Senate today. He spoke of the situation in Spain and the role of communism.

Union Members May Refuse, and Peaceful Means Induce Others to Refuse, to Work for an Employer Who is Promoting the Use of Labor-Displacing Device

The decision of the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court in the case of the United Mine Workers of America v. International Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, is a landmark decision. It allows union members to refuse to work for an employer who is promoting the use of labor-displacing devices.

Green Pledges Fight on Wage Cuts; 6,000,000 Jobless; 5-Day Week Urged

New York, July 18.—The American Federation of Labor will not stand a reduction of wages, and are going to oppose it with all our power," declared William Green, president of the Federation, in a speech before the convention of the International Longshoremen's Association.

"There are those who think that a reduction of wages is necessary and that it is time to lower the standard of living among working men and women," said Green in discussing alleged reductions for the business depression.

Miners' Union Warns of Government Control of Bituminous Coal Industry

Indianapolis, Ind., July 18.—Unless business executives and the coal operators of the United States take prompt action to avert the bituminous coal industry, the Federal Government will take control of the industry, according to the United Mine Workers of America.

FIVE-DAY WEEK, 6-HOUR DAY FOR U.S. EMPLOYEES

Washington, July 18.—The five-day week and the six-hour day for Federal Government employees is being considered by the Civil Service Commission. The Commission is considering the possibility of a five-day week and a six-hour day for Federal Government employees.

Creation of Work, Short Week for Jobs Relief in Germany

Berlin, Germany, July 18.—Recent reports of the German Advisory Commission on Unemployment make radical suggestions for the creation of work and the shortening of the work week. The Commission is suggesting the creation of work and the shortening of the work week.

NATURALIZATION-AIDED BY JOBBY ALIENS

New York, July 18.—Unemployment has created a market for citizenship, according to the League points out today. The League points out that citizenship is being sold to unemployed workers.

WAGE BOOST, 5-DAY WEEK ASKED BY GLASS WORKERS

Atlantic City, N. J., July 18.—Members of the American Glass Workers' Union, who are on strike in Atlantic City, are asking for a wage boost and a five-day week. The workers are asking for a wage boost and a five-day week.

WAGES MUST STAND, SENATORS DECLARE

New York, July 18.—United States Senators Robert F. Wagner and Royal S. Copeland made ringing declarations against wage reductions in speeches before the convention of the International Longshoremen's Association.

Shorter Week and Higher Wages The Only Cure for Unemployment

Washington, July 18.—"We are living in an age in which mechanization has developed to such a pronounced degree that the demand for every person, but every thing else is affected by it," declares the International Union of Operating Engineers, in a statement before the convention of the International Union of Operating Engineers.

SAYS PART-TIME PLAN KEEPS MANY AT WORK

Washington, July 18.—Employers are urged to consider a part-time plan as a means of keeping many workers at work. The part-time plan is suggested as a means of keeping many workers at work.

ROAD WORKERS STRIKE AGAINST WAGE CUTS

White Plains, N. Y., July 18.—Over 100 road workers quit work today in protest against a wage cut proposed by the contractor. The workers are protesting against a wage cut proposed by the contractor.

Mobilize Public Opinion Against Wage Reductions, Declares Green

Washington, July 18.—Employers are urged to consider a part-time plan as a means of keeping many workers at work. The part-time plan is suggested as a means of keeping many workers at work.

Wages Earners' Side of the Wage Question

The wage earners' side of the wage question is a complex one. It involves the interests of the workers and the interests of the employers. The wage earners' side of the wage question is a complex one.